

## CLS Citizens and Business Owners,

Four years have gone by quickly. Yep, four years and in that time I believe we have done a lot for this little city during that time all while navigating through COVID. First, I want to thank my lovely wife Teresa (you are really my rock) and my entire family for standing by me. And then all of my friends, fellow citizens, and City Council members that helped along the way as running this little place we all call paradise can be somewhat taxing, but we get through it.

So, for the last two months that you have heard me mention Grant Applications being submitted to TxDOT Transportation Alternatives Set-aside (TA) Program that would extend this Bicyclist and Pedestrian pathways from League City South Shore Blvd all the way to Hwy 146. The good news is that they have been accepted into the system for Phase I as a joint partnership with the City of League City leading the way on the overall project design and implementation. This doesn't go without saying that we have a long road ahead of us to get there (and when we do, we'll have a road with a bicycle/pedestrian path) ③ So now we start on planning and design to submit for Phase II. If approved, we would only need to pay 20% of the installation costs for our portion of the project, which EDC would most likely fund. In addition, the EDC would like to push ahead and start planning on adding a footbridge crossing over Jarboe to the east side of the existing vehicle bridge. This would be such a great addition to our city, as well as make it much safer crossing that bridge with all of the vehicle traffic.

Okay, now make sure you're sitting down. Daniel Dror Avenue has finally been opened. Yep, you heard me right. It's OPEN. The contractor is completing some striping work at the new intersection of Danial Dror Ave and Hanson Rd. Then it will be officially handed over to the city to maintain. There are a few more punch list items to be completed like removing, modifying, and adding signage.

WCID #12 contractor continues the refurbishment of the elevated water tower. When done, the new CLS EDC logo will be on it to showcase our city. This project is slated to take 1-2 more months to complete.

You can always watch the videos online for all of the council news, but I will hit on some highlights since there is so much to cover.

The CC meeting for 17JAN2023; passed unanimously contract for election service for the upcoming election in May, Resolution No 2023-01-EDC budget amendment for funding of property transfer of \$52,167 for purchase of property at 914 FM2094 (Pro Paint and Body) for a total of \$300K less and additional \$255K that was originally approved for east and west parking lot concrete rehabilitation project, Ord, 2023-01 amendment to City budget for transfer of such funds for purchase of property through city general funds account less the same parking lot rehabilitation project, Resolution No. 2023-02 support abolition of the office of County Treasurer in Galveston County, Resolution 2023-03 - Approved Ms. Susan Baker to the EDC board, and updated the PD step rate by 1.5%, The 07FEB2023 CC meeting; approved unanimously Resolution 2023-04 to allow for general elections to be held on May 6, 2023 including a special election for adoption of state law applicable to police officers establishing collective bargaining, EDC purchase of replacement palm trees for town center, lastly Ord. 2023-02 with a vote of 3 (Fisher, Chronister and Wirtes) for and 2 against (Ledet and Scanlon) to decrease Mayor and City Administrator spending authority for entering into contract from \$10K to \$5K. The 21FEB2023 CC meeting; approved the Transfer of 60th Anniversary Banners to the Civic Club for fundraising and allowed the Civic Club to procure new seasonal street banners to be placed along FM2094 and CLR.

The city has hired Cheryl Hunter as our full-time Director of Finance. Cheryl has been with the city for over ten years as part-time, so we are very lucky to have her here now as full-time.

Most of you have heard by now that CC selected Brad Goudie as our new City Administrator. We are excited to have Brad working for us and look forward to having him here with us for many years. When you see him around, take a moment to introduce yourself and welcome him to our little slice of paradise. Brads full bio can be found on the City Website and FB page.

We have accomplished so much during this time that the list is too long to go through here in detail but to name a few; COVID was quite a feat to work through with online CC meetings and all of the city emergency decorations and State/County proclamations, painting of city hall exterior and roof and the clubhouse, refurbishment of the pool, excessing unused equipment, organizing the public works area and painting the buildings, Daniel Dror Avenue, rolled out the videos of CC and EDC meeting on the website for all to view, creation of Ordinances to control Mobile Food Units (Food Trucks) and Short-term Rentals, LED lighting throughout the city and refurbishment of the ornate lights on CLR, annual Christmas Tree lighting, replacement of the Lowell Brown fishing pier, purchase of property behind city hall for future expansion, purchase of Pro Paint & Body shop to square off complete ownership of the east parking lot, retention of a 25 year lease for operations of Okies, carpeting of city hall (it had seven different carpets), No Wake signage added to channel and recent replacement of channel markers and so so much more.

In closing, I couldn't have gotten through these last 4 years without the support of our amazing City Secretary, Christy Stroup, and all the great staff at city hall. Christy has been a staple at City Hall for over 17 years and has been secretary to several mayors. She truly is a treasured employee. Thanks again to all of you!

So lastly, I hope to see you around the island.

Where every sunset is celebrated, and we look forward to every sunrise!

Island Life & Golf Cart Rides

May God Bless CLS and Ad Astra,

Mayor Kurt